

GOALIE HURT BUT WYCOMBE WIN

Sports Mail Special Report

DESPITE an injury to their goalkeeper, John Maskell, ten minutes after the start, Wycombe Wanderers triumphed by four goals to one in their Isthmian League game against Barking.

Wycombe Wanderers: Maskell; Beck, French; Baker, Rundle, Gale; Worley, Samuels, Bates, Horseman, Merrick. Substitute: Priestley.

Barking: I. Jones; James, Robertson; Cannon, M. Jones, Dodkins; Page, Meredith, Fox, Rabenau, Dawson. Substitute: Clifton.

Referee: D. Ball (Surbiton).

Barking opened up some determined attacks early on and Wycombe's Brian French, who came in for Roystone at left back, won applause from the crowd for some cool defensive work.

Offside checked one or two of Wycombe's most promising advances, but one shot from Merrick almost dipped into the goal as the goalkeeper ran out.

When Maskell was injured in a collision with the Barking centre-forward Fox, and had to go off the field, Samuels took his place in goal.

But three minutes afterwards, Barking also lost a man when their centre-half Melvyn Jones had to go off for attention.

Maskell was taken to Wycombe Hospital for stitches in a cut over the eye, and the substitute Clifton came on for Jones.

Wycombe took the lead after 23 minutes when BATES converted a penalty after being

fouled by the Barking substitute and a minute later BATES added a second from a neat pass from Worley.

As Barking hit back Samuels showed his worth as deputy goalkeeper for Wycombe with several brilliant saves but the Wanderers were soon on the attack again and in the 32nd minute GALE scored a third after Horseman had hit the underside of the crossbar.

Eight minutes before the interval FOX reduced Barking's arrears, but six minutes later BATES added another for Wycombe — again from the penalty spot.

Shortly before the interval Wycombe brought on their substitute, Priestley, playing at left back.

Half-time: Wycombe Wanderers 4, Barking 1.

Barking's goalkeeper did well to stop a stinging long-range shot from Merrick and a short-range shot from Horseman.

The game was still full of incident but the initiative was more often with Barking as Wycombe's forward moves were often held up by faulty passing.

RESULT:

WYCOMBE WAND. 4
BARKING 1

SPECTACULAR SAMUELS

Wycombe 4 Barking 1

HERO OF this lively Isthmian League clash was Wycombe inside-right Samuels, who took over in goal when Maskell was hurt in the 10th minute and pulled off a string of spectacular saves.

Maskell went to hospital to have six stitches in a cut over the eye after a collision with Barking centre-forward Fox and took no further part in the game.

Samuels took over in goal, but the Wanderers delayed bringing on a substitute until just before half-time when Priestley was called up.

Soon after Maskell's injury Barking lost centre-half Melvyn Jones in another clash, and substitute Clifton took his place.

With 10 men Wycombe mounted an all-out assault which produced three goals in eight minutes midway through the first half. Bates converting a penalty and adding a second goal a minute later, and Gale scoring a third after Horseman had hit the underside of the bar.

A defensive slip enabled Fox to score for Barking, but a minute before half-time Bates hit a fourth for the home side from another penalty.